

Message Text

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15
ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 L-03 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 FAA-00

SS-15 NSC-05 PRS-01 MCT-01 SY-05 USSS-00 SP-02 /071 W
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R 151536Z OCT 76
FM AMEMBASSY ACCRA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4827
INFO USUN NEW YORK 605

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EO 11652 NA
TAGS: PFOR PORS GH EAIR
SUB: HEAD OF STATE'S STATEMENT ON AIR-PIRACY

1. HEAD OF STATE AND CHAIRMAN OF SUPREME MILITARY COUNCIL GENERAL ACHEAMPONG MADE FIRST GOG PUBLIC STATEMENT ON AIR-HIJACKING/AIR-PIRACY DURING HIS WELCOMING ADDRESS TO DELEGATES OF 45TH SESSION OF INTERPOL GENERAL ASSEMBLY BEING HELD IN ACCRA.

2. HIS STATEMENT READS, AND WE QUOTE ACCURATELY: "MR. PRESIDENT... I LIKE TO DRAW YOUR ATTENTION TO ONE AREA OF CONTEMPORARY VIOLENCE, AND THAT IS HI-JACKING WHICH IS SOMETIMES REFERRED TO AS 'AIR PIRACY'. AS LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS, YOU SHOULD NOT NECESSARILY BE OCCUPIED WITH THE POLITICAL OVERTONES OF THIS TYPE OF CRIME. I AM PRIMARILY CONCERNED WITH HI-JACKING AS A CRIME AND NOTHING ELSE. IT WILL BE VERY MUCH APPRECIATED IF LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS WILL DEVISE SOME MEANS WHICH CAN SURPRISE THE HI-JACKER AND TAKE THE WIND OUT OF HIS SAILS BEFORE HE IS ABLE TO STRIKE."

3. COMMENT: EMBASSY HAS SPOKEN WITH GOG IN PAST ABOUT THIS ISSUE AND HAS BEEN HOPEFUL IT WOULD TAKE A STAND OF IT. GOG HAS BEEN ON THE VERGE OF TAKING SUCH A STAND SEVERAL TIMES, ONLY TO PULL BACK AT LAST MOMENT. THUS, WHILE THIS STATEMENT IS
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LESS THAN WE WOULD HAVE LIKED, IT DOES REPRESENT A

BEGINNING AND SUGGESTS THAT GHANA MIGHT BE HELPFUL AT UN ON
THIS AND RELATED ISSUES, I.E. FRG
RESOLUTION ON TAKING OF HOSTAGES.
LINEHAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AIRCRAFT HIJACKING, CRIMES, INTERNATIONAL LAW
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 OCT 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976ACCRA07594
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760389-0061
From: ACCRA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761050/aaaabqrr.tel
Line Count: 65
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <19 MAY 2004 by ElyME>; APPROVED <14 SEP 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: HEAD OF STATE'S STATEMENT ON AIR-PIRACY
TAGS: PFOR, PORS, EAIR, GH, UN
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006